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AP English Literature and Composition

Composition: Rainsford in Action

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**SKILLS PAGE**

**6.2 Colons**

MY SENTENCES: Rainsford is thrust into a major choice, to be the hunted by the general for three days or be killed instantly.

The narrator describes the following as the hunter hid in a tree; “Rainsford held his breath. The general’s eyes had left the ground and were traveling inch by inch up the tree” (Connell 81).

EXPLANATION: Use a colon before a list of items, especially after expressions like as follows and the following. Also use a colon before a long formal statement or a quotation. I found this information on page 359 of the *Holt Handbook*.

* In both examples, a colon is needed before a long formal statement.

REVISED EXAMPLES: Rainsford is thrust into a major decision: to be the hunted by the general for three days or be killed instantly.

The narrator describes the following as the hunter hid in a tree: “Rainsford held his breath. The general’s eyes had left the ground and were traveling inch by inch up the tree” (Connell 81).

ORIGINAL EXAMPLE: The concert included performances by the following: Jay-Z, Jack Johnson, and Coldplay.